

033048-048

What is claimed is:

1. A graphical user interface (GUI) for management of software associated with a plurality of customers, said graphical user interface comprising:
a first user interface element actuatable to access a portion of said graphical user interface, which portion displays a list of software groups which are available for management for one of said plurality of customers.
2. The graphical user interface of claim 1, wherein said first user interface element is a link which is actuatable via a pointing device and a cursor displayed on said graphical user interface.
3. The graphical user interface of claim 1, wherein said first portion of said graphical user interface includes a screen wherein a user can select said one of said plurality of customers to access said list of software groups.
4. The graphical user interface of claim 1, wherein said first portion includes a GUI mechanism for filtering said list of software groups based on a selected operating system platform.
5. The graphical user interface of claim 1, wherein each of said software groups is a bundle of software, each bundle of software including at least one software package.
6. The graphical user interface of claim 5, wherein said at least one software package is a Red Hat Package Manager (RPM) package.

033048-048

7. The graphical user interface of claim 1, wherein each of said groups of software is a role.

8. The graphical user interface of claim 7, wherein each said role includes at least one bundle of software.

5 9. The graphical user interface of claim 8, wherein each bundle of software includes at least one software package.

10. The graphical user interface of claim 9, wherein said at least one software package is a Red Hat Package Manager (RPM) package.

10 11. The graphical user interface of claim 1, further comprising:
at least one GUI mechanism actuatable to add a new software group to said list of software groups.

15 12. The graphical user interface of claim 11, wherein, subsequent to actuation of said at least one GUI mechanism for adding a new software group, said user is presented with a data entry screen which permits said user to enter a name for said new software group.

13. The graphical user interface of claim 11, wherein, subsequent to actuation of said at least one GUI mechanism for adding a new software group, said user is presented with a data entry screen which permits said user to enter a type for said new software group.

20 14. The graphical user interface of claim 13, wherein said type is one of: application code and customer code.

033048-048

15. The graphical user interface of claim 11, wherein, subsequent to actuation of said at least one GUI mechanism for adding a new software group, said user is presented with a data entry screen which permits said user to enter a platform for said new software group.

5 16. The graphical user interface of claim 11, wherein, subsequent to actuation of said at least one GUI mechanism for adding a new software group, said user is presented with a data entry screen which permits said user to enter a description for said new software group.

10 17. The graphical user interface of claim 11, wherein, subsequent to actuation of said at least one GUI mechanism for adding a new software group, said user is presented with a data entry screen which permits said user to enter a service associated with said new software group.

18. The graphical user interface of claim 17, wherein said service is one of: web and database.

15 19. The graphical user interface of claim 11, wherein, subsequent to actuation of said at least one GUI mechanism for adding a new software group, said user is presented with a screen which permits said user to select one or more available packages for said new software group.

20 20. The graphical user interface of claim 11, wherein, subsequent to actuation of said at least one GUI mechanism for adding a new software group, said user is presented with a screen which permits said user to select one or more available bundles for said new software group.

033048-048

21. The graphical user interface of claim 19, wherein said available packages include only those software packages that are associated with said one of said plurality of customers.

22. The graphical user interface of claim 20, wherein said available
5 bundles include only those software packages that are associated with said one of said plurality of customers.

23. The graphical user interface of claim 11, wherein, subsequent to
actuation of said at least one GUI mechanism for adding a new software group,
said user is presented with a screen which permits said user to select an order of
10 installation for software modules within said new software group.

24. The graphical user interface of claim 1, wherein said portion of said
graphical user interface includes at least one GUI mechanism which permits said
user to select one of said software groups and perform an action with respect
thereto.

15 25. The graphical user interface of claim 24, wherein said action is
viewing details of said selected one of said software groups.

26. The graphical user interface of claim 25, wherein said details
include a version number of said selected one of said software groups.

27. The graphical user interface of claim 24, wherein said action is
20 creating a new version of said selected one of said software groups.

033048-048

28. The graphical user interface of claim 24, wherein said action is editing one of a description of said selected one of said software groups and software contents of said selected one of said software groups.

5 29. A graphical user interface (GUI) for management of software associated with a plurality of customers, said graphical user interface comprising:
at least one GUI mechanism for determining on which of a plurality of devices associated with said plurality of customers that a specific software unit is installed.

10 30. The graphical user interface of claim 29, wherein said at least one GUI mechanism includes a list of software units associated with said plurality of customers.

31. The graphical user interface of claim 29, wherein said software unit is a bundle including at least one package.

15 32. The graphical user interface of claim 29, wherein actuation of said at least one GUI mechanism results in a display of all of the devices within a network that includes said specific software unit.

33. The graphical user interface of claim 32, wherein said display identifies said devices by customer name.

20 34. The graphical user interface of claim 32, wherein said display identifies said devices by hostname.

033048-048

35. The graphical user interface of claim 32, wherein said display identifies said devices by IP address.

36. The graphical user interface of claim 32, wherein said display identifies said devices by data center.

5 37. The graphical user interface of claim 29, further comprising:
means for deprecating said specific software unit.